

Tribe receives \$150K grant for affordable housing

From Enterprise Staff

Representatives from the Federal Home Loan Bank (FHLB) of Dallas, through its member Austin Bank, awarded a \$150,000 Native American Housing Opportunities (NAHO) Fund grant to Alabama-Coushatta Indian Housing Authority (ACIHA) Thursday during a ceremonial check celebration. The funds are part of \$1 million in funding that FHLB Dallas awarded to Native American tribes or tribal housing authorities this year.

FHLB Dallas introduced the NAHO Fund this year to increase affordable housing access for federally recognized tribes and tribally designated housing entities by providing grants of \$50,000 to \$150,000. The grants may be used for homebuyer down payment and closing cost assistance, rental assistance, home repairs, new construction, administrative expenses and other eligible uses.

“This new fund from FHLB Dallas puts an additional focus on rural housing affordability, and we are pleased to be a part of this effort to bring greater affordability to Livingston,” Austin Bank Senior Vice President and CRA Officer Debbie Braune said.

ACIHA will use its grant for 75 generator switches in homes, 15 internet connections for a remote neighborhood and eight new central air-conditioning systems, ACIHA

Director Jerry McKinney said.

McKinney said he was at a tribal housing conference in Florida when he heard about FHLB Dallas’ grant program and Rachel Collins, tribal grants director, was also contacted by a representative and with a little help with the process from the housing team, Collins took the lead to complete and submit the application.

“We put generator plugs in our housing plan two years ago because of power outages we occasionally get from hurricanes, but we didn’t have the funds for them,” Mr. McKinney said. “This grant will give us the opportunity to do that now. The Wi-Fi connections will help our kids who don’t have internet at home and have to go to the community center to do homework. We are really grateful for this grant and what it will help capitalize for ACIHA.”

Greg Hettrick, senior vice president and director of Community Investment at FHLB Dallas, said the \$1 million fund is financing much-needed affordable housing initiatives.

“We’ve seen some innovative uses of the funding to develop sustainable housing, and the housing authority’s plan for generator switches is a good example of preparing for future power outages related to storms pushing inward from the Gulf,” he said. “We are honored to be able to support their work.”



Lee Blau and his company, LL Contractors LLC, recently gave away 150 soccer balls to local children participating in the Polk County Youth Soccer Association. “We had a great day giving out soccer balls to the kids of Polk County. I appreciate the community and our strong partnership with GAF and Lowe’s. At LL Contractors, giving back to our community is at the heart of what we do. Through these corporate partnerships, we regularly support local initiatives,” Blau said. COURTESY PHOTO

LIFE TRIBUTE

Charles Colin Blesener

Charles Colin Blesener was born on September 25, 1944, in Houston, Texas, to Ambrose Joseph and Rita Augusta (Kraft) Blesener. He passed from this life on October 16, 2024, in Austin, Texas, at the age of 80.

A visitation for Charles will be held from 5-7 p.m. with a rosary to begin at 6 p.m. on Monday, October 21, 2024, at Pace Funeral Home in Livingston, Texas.

A liturgical funeral mass will be held at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, October 22, 2024, at St. Joseph’s Catholic Church in Livingston, Texas with Fr. Paul Kahan officiating. Interment will follow at Resthaven Cemetery in Houston, Texas.

Please contact Pace Funeral Home at 936-967-3711 for additional information.



Charles Colin Blesener
Visitation, rosary Monday

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Business Spotlight • Ribbon Cutting in Livingston

Members of The Polk County Chamber of Commerce participate in a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony celebrating Alpha Financial Group LLC for business owner Don Goodwin. Alpha Financial Group is located at 304 N Washington Ave Livingston, Tx 77351. They are open Monday-Friday 9:00-4:00. Photo by Madison Bland

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Early Voting October 21st - November 1st

ELECTION DAY November 5th

pd. political ad by Grant fot Mayor

POLK COUNTY WEATHER FORECAST

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Sunny 84°/54° Chance of Rain 2% Wind ENE 5mph	Sunny 84°/56° Chance of Rain 3% Wind SE 4mph	Partly Cloudy 85°/59° Chance of Rain 7% Wind S 3mph	Partly Cloudy 88°/61° Chance of Rain 9% Wind SSW 3mph	Mostly Sunny 88°/60° Chance of Rain 9% Wind WSW 4mph	Sunny 87°/61° Chance of Rain 9% Wind SSE 4mph	Sunny 87°/61° Chance of Rain 8% Wind S 6mph

Information sourced from weather.com

Forecast Fire Danger

twc.tamu.edu

Fire Danger Rating
Low Moderate High Very High Extreme